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APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE		ILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/899,911		07/09/2001	Toshihiko Aoki	109965	4494
25944	7590	06/27/2003			
OLIFF & I		GE, PLC	EXAM	EXAMINER	
P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			SOHN, SEUNG C		
				ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED: 06/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Offic Acti n Summary  □ The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with th correspondence address = Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM  THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Sametors of themse by leavables upon other to provisions of 30 CPR 1.35(s). In reason, the cover sheet with th correspondence address = Period for reply specified above is less han help (30) days, a reply which he standary minimum of him (20) days will be considered triely.  If the period for reply specified above is less han help (30) days, a reply which he standary minimum of him (20) days will be considered triely.  If the period for reply specified above is less han help (30) days, a reply which he standary minimum of him (20) days will be considered triely.  If the period for reply specified above is less than help (30) days, a reply which he standary minimum of this (30) days will be considered triely.  If the period for reply specified above is less than help (30) days, a reply within he standary minimum of this (30) days will be considered triely.  If the period for reply specified above is less than help (30) days, a reply within he standary minimum of this (30) days will be considered triely.  If the period for reply specified above is less than help (30) days, a reply within he standary minimum of this (30) days.  Provided in the standary of the standary provides and the standary minimum of this (30) days.  Provided in the standary of the standary of the standary minimum of this (30) days.  A private minimum of the standary of the standary minimum of the standary minimum of the standary minimum of the standary minimum of the standary of the standary of the standary minimum of the standary of the st		Application No.	Applicant(s)					
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A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>f</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION Extensions of storming be arising to a significant of 3 CPR 1.108(s). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled  ## The period for reply a specified shows a less than hirty (30) days, a reply which the statutiony minimum of titing (30) days, a visually provided in the period for reply a specified shows; the maximum of 3 CPR 1.108(s) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  ## Failur to reply which the soft or estended prode for reply will, by statutor, period will apply and will replay fills (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  ## Failur to reply which the soft or estended prode for reply will, by statutor, period will apply and will replay fills (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  ## Failur to reply which the soft or estended prode for reply will, by statutor, period of the communication to the success of the	·							
1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 April 2003.  2a)  This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.  3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4)  Claim(s) 6-27 is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.  5)  Claim(s) is/are allowed.  6)  Claim(s) is/are rejected.  7)  Claim(s) is/are objected to.  8)  Claim(s) 6-27 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.  Application Papers  9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  10)  The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  11)  The proposed drawing correction filed on is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.  If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.  12)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.  Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120  13)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  a) All b) Some c) None of:  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.  14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.  15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).	A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	66(a). In no event, however, may a reply be time within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days a reply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	nely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).					
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**DETAILED ACTION** 

Election/Restrictions

1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct

species of the claimed invention:

Species I: Figs. 1-8, claims 22-27.

Species II: Figs. 9-18, claims 6-13.

**Species III**: Figs. 19-24, claims 14-21.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for

prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is

finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claim is generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification

of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims

readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim

is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless

accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration

of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include

all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims

are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the

elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

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Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Seung C. Sohn whose telephone number is (703) 308-4093. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Porta can be reached on (703) 308-4852. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9318 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

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Art Unit: 2878

SCS

June 18, 2003

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KEVIN PYO PRIMARY EXAMINER